

Miles Blythe McCorkle to Andrew Jackson, April 19, 1833, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

DR. M. MCCORCKLE TO JACKSON.

Nashville, April 19, 1833.

Dear General, I have deferred answering your last Letter, until now, in order, to give some information respecting your negroes; many of whom at that time were very ill. There has been more sickness among them for some months, than usual. The cause I cannot well imagine. The diseases that have prevailed among them, have been something similar to an Epidemic. High Fever, headache, attended with cough and pain in the breast, extending occasionally to the stomach and bowels. There have been about 20 cases of this character. One case, which terminated fatally (Titus) of which you have been informed, had many of the symptoms of Cholera. He lived about 8 hours after being attacked violently. I was with him until he died; but our efforts were all in vain. I have had 2 other cases of the kind in the neighbourhood, One at A. J. Donelsons and one at Drakes Lick, the latter a well marked case of Sp[a]smodic Cholera both of which terminated favourably. There was another case in the bend of the River (Pryors) which died. Old Sampson (the gardener) fell a victim to the disease of an Epidemic character. His constitution could not bear its violent attack. The rest have all recovered, and now enjoy good health. I think I have been unremitting in my attention, both by day and night. The Cholera has again subsided in Nashville; and the general health of the Country is good.

Your farm business goes on well under the management of Mr. Holtzclaw. I think he is one of the best Managers I have ever seen; and considering the backwardness of the

Library of Congress

season, and sickness, he is quite forward in his business. He will I [have] no doubt make a fine crop. What he does is well done, and done with judgment. I think the Negroes are becoming quite reconciled, and he tells me he finds no difficulty with them, having rarely to chastise. . . .